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(54) HEAT TREATMENT METHOD

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a heat treatment method in which a strain is reduced and a good hardness can be obtained in the quench hardening treatment of steel parts.

SOLUTION: In this heat treatment method, at an oil cooling stage in the quenching treatment, the quenching oil surface pressure in the case of charging the treating material into the quenching oil whose kinematic viscosity is 6-50 mm²/sec at 100° C is reduced to 10-300 Torr and thereafter, inert gas or the air is introduced under the state, where the surface of the treating material is in boiling state, to control the surface pressure of the quenching oil to >300 Torr.

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